

Evening Ledger

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Subscription Terms:
The Evening Ledger is served to subscribers in Philadelphia at the rate of twelve cents per week.

Address all communications to Evening Ledger, Independence Square, Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, Wednesday, August 1, 1917

POLICY OR PRINCIPLE?

WRITTEN constitutions never amounted to much until John Marshall reasoned authority into the pronouncements of the United States Supreme Court and the armies of the Union smashed to pieces the organized forces that sought to prove by military might that the great Federal instrument was nothing more than a compact, to be broken at will and disregarded at pleasure.

When it became apparent that in this country constitutions meant something, being almost as unchangeable as the laws of the Medes and the Persians, enthusiasts with fads perceived that to perpetuate their reforms the sure way was to avoid simple legislation and write their statutes into the constitutions themselves. That assured permanency. The constitutions of more than half the States are filled with legislation. They are long, wordy documents and codes of laws rather than statements of vital principles of government. Principles do not change with the years; policies, usually outlined by legislation, do. That is why State constitutions often become obsolete within a generation. They have within them the seeds of their own dissolution because they are filled with legislation.

A governmental policy is no longer a good policy if it requires a constitutional clause to maintain it. The Monroe Doctrine is not written into the Constitution, because it does not belong there. It is a statement of policy, but of a policy not necessarily forever wise. Washington's advice that we beware of foreign entanglements was a policy of American government for more than a century; but it was never incorporated in the Constitution because it had no proper place there. The Bill of Rights, statements of the eternal principles of liberty on which our Government rests, definitions of the powers belonging to the several departments, etc., belong in the Constitution, on which account they are there.

Legislation by constitution is bad legislation because it undermines and defeats the purpose of a constitution. It would seem, therefore, to be inherently wrong in principle to write prohibition into the Federal Constitution. But may it not be a fact that prohibition has seemed to be a legislative affair only because legislation offered the first and fairest opportunity for progress? The Constitution, for instance, prohibited the importation of slaves after a specified date. Later, by amendment, it prohibited slavery entirely. That was not legislation, because opposition to slavery had become a principle. It had ceased to be a mere policy. Consequently, prohibitionists are within the limits of reason when they claim that the assertion of a general principle is their purpose. They can point to Turkey and its centuries of prohibition in defense of that view. A sumptuary enactment, however, is always a dangerous enactment, and to write it into the fundamental law is a drastic proceeding. The inflexibility of the Constitution is essential to order in America. It would be ruinous to have in the Constitution any provisions not sustained by popular opinion in every State.

It is altogether probable that the Congress is justified at this time in authorizing a vote on a prohibition amendment—certainly so, if it will relieve the Government now of some of the harsh burdens the prohibitionists propose to put on it. We should view with alarm, however, a later situation if a minority of the people, acting through the smaller States, should adopt the amendment against the wishes of the majority resident in the larger States. The problem of the prohibitionists should not be merely to win enough States to carry the amendment, but to win for it majority support in at least some of the great States until now desolate in the west column.

CENSORSHIP

"Gay Crusader won the Derby," London blithely announces. Nothing, apparently, has been done to prevent the publication of the article, which was a gross insult to the British Government.

lation. They are predicated on the belief that the great masses do not know what is good for them. They are more often than not stupid and the public has no confidence in them. This was notably true for a time in Pennsylvania, when the censorship of motion pictures had become ridiculous.

But ordinary censorship and censorship of the national defense are entirely different things. The latter no patriot would oppose and no newspaper fail to observe voluntarily. It is regrettable, however, that the rulings in Washington should have been so muddled that, while some newspapers were observing the Government's requests for nonpublication of specific dispatches, other newspapers were printing them. Possibly the new rulings by Mr. Creel will prevent the repetition of such conditions. If they do not, voluntary censorship will cease to exist. Nor will public opinion sustain any censorship which represses facts already well known in Europe and kept secret here only for bureaucratic purposes.

THE DONKEY IS "IN AGAIN"

THE Democratic City Committee has provided the Administration with excellent reasons for continuing to consult Republicans about appointments. The "workers"—that is to say, politicians who do not work—cry out with one accord that "what we want is jobs, not speeches"; that they are tired of "the same old bunk about getting together"; that they want "jobs for Democrats as Democrats." They accuse the President and the Secretary of the Navy of consulting with Congressman Vare about appointments instead of with the Democratic leaders. What is their charge against Mr. Vare? That he seeks jobs. But to what charge do they themselves naively plead guilty? That they seek jobs. On the evidence they are more culpable than Mr. Vare, for it is not his fault if Mr. Wilson and Mr. Daniels choose to consult him.

Culpable as we maintain Mr. Vare's attitude toward municipal and State affairs to be, there is reason to believe that his conception of national patriotism is quite out of the average. He has gone out of his way to support the Administration in its prosecution of the war. He is said to have a warm liking for and a strong faith in Mr. Wilson. This is usually coupled with the remark that "Vare has everything to gain and nothing to lose by playing with Wilson against Penrose," but we believe these blanket condemnations of every motive in a political boss's heart are most unfair. A man learns patriotism in school. He sets it aside, sometimes, as something holy and only remotely concerned with practical life. He does not apply it to local politics. But in the emergency of a war he may embrace again his boyhood ideals of patriotism, as in the emergency of the sickness or death of a relative a man may return to his religion with an unexpected fervor.

At any rate, let these Democrats, who admit they are playing petty local politics, bring accurate and convincing evidence that Mr. Vare, in collusion with Mr. Wilson and Mr. Daniels, is taking measures that will weaken this city's efforts to help win the war.

VOTING A RACE EN BLOC

THE reason most decent white people vote the solid Democratic ticket down South is not that they fear Republicans will come in and capitalize the negro vote, but because they know that the Democratic machine, if it had a fight on its hands, would begin voting negroes right and left. The shadow is the knowledge that ignorant negro voters can be voted en bloc. It is a deplorable thing that they are voted that way in Chester for the greater glory and power of bad government. Wise negro leadership will carry the race into the middle of the road politically and keep it there.

A GOOD WAY TO KEEP COOL

IT'S an ill sun that warms up no good in anybody, to misquote an old saying. This hot spell really has one virtue: It makes everybody want to keep cool, and in trying every possible means of accomplishing that feat everybody at last learns that the best course is to sit still and do nothing. But when one relaxes and does nothing one has to think. That is unavoidable. Thinking, one would naturally come to realize that not everybody, as the thinker, can sit still and be calm. Children, for example, are incapable of sitting still and relaxing. That is why it is impossible to hypnotize them. But children can be sent out of the city to play in meadows or by the sea, where, it seems, their ceaseless and untrammeled play can stand any amount of that heat which wilts them in a small city street.

The Children's Country Week Association is soliciting funds for this work, which is explained in a letter to the editor appearing in another column on this page.

Should allens be drafted? It is a safe bet that more than 90 per cent of them voted.

An airplane may have tumbled into Lake Erie, but it was not an airplane stock.

If this keeps up, Philadelphia is going to have a crack black regiment.—Clinton Rogers Woodruff.

Let it have a crack at the Prussian Guard.

Mayor McDowell says Chester is normal again. That's all we expect of Chester—just a little plain normality. "And darned little of that."

Tammany does not know where to get a candidate to oppose Mayor Mitchell. Haven't they a Public Service Commission over in New York with which to give a man a reputation?

When steamships run into transports within harbor limits, a little suspicion of ulterior practice is not to be wondered at. There are many navigators of Teutonic extraction serving on American boats.

WHY CONGRESS DELAYS ACTION

It Is Afraid the Voters Will Refuse to Re-elect Men Who Levy Heavy War Taxes

Special Correspondence of the Evening Ledger

WASHINGTON, July 31. WHEN the President called Congress together in extraordinary session on April 2 to deliver his momentous war message it was confidently believed the business in hand was so pressing and would meet so prompt a response that it would not be necessary for the members of the national legislature to remain in session for a longer period than three months. Congress had gradually been accustoming itself to extra sessions, although they are of comparatively recent origin, and wanted to get through with this one without running into the hot weather. While it had no great desire to tackle the war business, it started vigorously, inspired by the President's hopeful words, with the expectation that the members would soon be able to return to their homes, leaving the prosecution of the war in the hands of the President and his advisers. We are now approaching the "dog-days," with Congress still in session and no adjournment in sight. At the instance of the President, who is commander-in-chief of the army and navy, and who does not desire to be interfered with in the conduct of the war, Congress has passed the most important laws that have been enacted throughout the whole of its history, and has provided for the expenditure of approximately \$18,000,000,000, which may now be augmented by half as much more in anticipation.

It is putting it mildly to say that both Senators and Representatives have been called upon to lay heavier burdens upon the people of the United States than they expected to do when President Wilson delivered his memorable message in favor of a "world democracy." It is a far cry from the nearly \$50,000,000 that was appropriated to uphold the hands of President McKinley to conduct the war with Spain—about fifty cents per capita—and the \$12,000,000,000 or \$14,000,000,000 which may be ultimately authorized this session to aid our allies in the war against Germany and to maintain our own part in that warfare. If Congress gets through with \$12,000,000,000 authorized before hostilities on the part of this country have opened, that sum alone will represent a per capita charge of \$150 on every man, woman and child in the country. That may be called America's first "hit" toward making "the world itself at last free." It brings the American expenditure for a period of four months only, and before a blow is struck against Germany, up to an amount equal to about half of Great Britain's total expenditure, including her loans to her allies, since the war began three years ago. It does not lie in the mouth of anybody at home or abroad to say the United States Congress has been ungenerous to the friendly Powers of Europe.

Congress Will Still Deliberate

With the prohibition revenue question pending and Secretary McAdoo asking for an additional \$5,000,000,000 for army purposes, debate upon the war tax bill will doubtless continue. The Senate is expected to discuss this measure for several weeks, at least. It cannot well do otherwise, because of the suddenness of the stupendous new demands upon Congress for army and navy appropriations.

"Where is the revenue to come from?" is no idle question with the representatives of the people at this time. In the departments of the administration and with the army and navy, where the tenure of office is fixed and where, as in the army and navy, those holding place do not have to depend upon the people for election, the situation may be different. In fact, it is vastly different. The army and navy are the protectors of the country, but they do not produce revenue. Revenue comes from commerce, from the factory, the farm and the mine, and it is from the factory, the farm and the mine that Congress must secure the billions of dollars which the President and his advisers now, sometimes with scant information, say are necessary for the conduct of the war. The shoe pinches in Congress because, while it is trying to support the President in prosecuting the war, it must answer to the people for the methods it employs to raise revenue for the support of the commander-in-chief of the army and navy. Congress is criticized for acting with deliberation which those who expect to spend the people's money deem intolerable; but much criticism is irksome to those who are endeavoring to do the patriotic thing with the draught of the country to the very verge of business and financial disaster. So the Senate may be expected to discuss the tax bill quite fully; and although it does not possess the constitutional right to raise revenue, it will, doubtless, make suggestions in the way of amendments for new appropriations not considered or anticipated when the bill was before the House or while it was in course of revision by the Senate Finance Committee. It will have to deal with the situation carefully because, owing to our changing financial conditions, new questions are bound to arise before the bill finally reaches conference.

Big Job for Conferees

No matter how long the Senate discusses the bill, still further time must ensue when finally the measure gets into the hands of the conferees of the two houses. It is in conference that the rough edges of a bill are smoothed down. The two houses may differ as to the form and contents of a bill, but it is left to that small body of men, usually the ranking members of the respective committees, who are known as conferees, to adjust the differences and go back to their respective houses for approval. Old-timers in legislative halls are now agreed that the conferees upon the tax bill, the greatest of its kind in the history of the world, must take time to whip the views of their contending houses into shape. They cannot under the rules originate new matter, but they can agree upon matters that have been in dispute between the two houses. The first conferees on the House side will undoubtedly be the Democratic leader, Mr. Kitchin, of North Carolina, and the first conferees on the Senate side will be Senator Simmons, likewise of North Carolina, chairman of the Committee on Finance, Senator Penrose, of Pennsylvania, will be the ranking Republican on the Senate side, and Mr. Tamm, of Michigan, will be the ranking Republican on the House side. These gentlemen, with their associates, will go into a legislative sweat-box immediately after the Senate passes the bill and will remain in there until they conclude until they have thrashed out their differences. It is not believed they can do this within three or four weeks.

Fixing the Nationality

Speaking of monickers, "Theobald M." to those who know, is as dead a giveaway as "Francis X."

George F. Limb, so E. V. W. tells us, is deputy superintendent of the Department of State Police. There's a true limb of the law for you, sez he.

ACCEPTED FOR A CHANGE

If you have written verse or prose And sent it off to be inspected, By some old editorial gink, You'll know he doesn't stop to think, But scribbles on in lurid ink "Rejected."

It's pretty rough on some poor scribe,

Who, with the coin still uncollected, Imagines that his family's fed, To get his story back instead And find thereon in letters red, "Rejected."

Now as this little verse I write

I know the meter's quite neglected, I know this stuff is old and stale, I fear instead of getting kale I'll find this junk in next week's mail—"Rejected."

Yet if it is I shall not sigh,

'Twill only be what I expected, Perhaps when Homer plied the strings And soared aloft on lyric wings Some old Athenian tagged his things "Rejected."

Tom Daly's Column

BALLADE OF CHEER

Oh, brothers, be of cheer! We aren't roasted quite; Though sizzards scorch and sear, There's still relief in sight, The future's looming bright, For there a hope is hid; Believe me, yesternight I heard a katydid!

Say sages quaint and queer, With learning recondite, When katydids are here, Soon Autumn's tooth will bite And make our mornings white, "Six weeks till frost!" amid "The sleepless gloom a spite— I heard a katydid!"

You can't deceive my ear! In blizzard time you might; But when it's still and clear, And breathing's just a fight, So heavy rests the blight Of midnight's humid lid, I'm sure my hearing's right— I heard a katydid!

Look, brothers, to the height! The Sun-god's car shall alight And downward take its flight— I heard a katydid!

NEWS came the other day of the death of Patrick Sarsfield Gilmore's widow. Her funeral should have been vibrant with flawless music. Pat Gilmore's band was the daddy of them all just after wartime and up until the early '90s, when the bandmaster died. At that time John Philip Sousa was an enlisted musician drawing down something less than \$50 a month as leader of the United States Marine Band. The White House took him up and helped along his vogue, and with the passing of Gilmore Sousa was exploited by some promoter (we've forgotten who) and engaged to make a tour of the country at what then must have seemed to him the munificent wage of \$5000 per year. That wasn't enough for him next year, but the promoter in that one twelvemonth surely cleaned up a bunch of notes that made music enough for the remainder of his life.

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Dear, oh, dear, the troubles of authors!

Another writes from New York, 'I am contributing bits of verse and prose to about a half dozen of our very best magazines with excellent returns. I suppose one has to get shot in battle to get the best results in poetry.'

UNITED LADIES' WAIST COMPANY—A

petition in bankruptcy has been filed.

And no wonder, thinks Canfield, since

Siamese twins are such rarities.

WHEN a contributor remarked the

other day that "newspaper columns mention some names too much and some others too little," no reflection, of course, was intended to be cast upon Phil Friend. Nevertheless, he makes it the occasion for an explanation and an appeal:

PHIL FRIEND

MY MISSION

My modest aim's To gather names Of heroines and heroes, Who rightly claim A share of fame, But mostly capture

The rich who shine Are not for mine; They cannot bribe or wheedle. Their chance to pass Is likely as

The camel's through the needle. I try to get "The violet" Both in and out of season, But often fail, And hence this tool, Which will declare the reason: The modest chap Is hard to trap; He will not blow his trumpet, Nor rise and come With sounding drum, And so his friends must thump it, I am inclined To seek and find

Some names worth mentioning.

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

The Children's Country Week.

Justice for the Negro

CHILDREN'S COUNTRY WEEK

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir—The birthright of every child should be pure air, good food and an opportunity to enjoy the wonderful things in nature that God has so abundantly provided, and yet do we realize, dear reader, how comparatively few of the children of Philadelphia do have the opportunity to enjoy these things?

If you sat for one day in the office of the Children's Country Week Association, at 1223 Arch street, and saw the almost continuous stream of boys and girls who walk from Kensington, from Frankford, from the east and west—always with the same anxious question on their lips, "Is this the place where you get your name taken to go to the country free?" you would realize the numbers who depend, even for a single day, upon the wonderful generosity of our beloved city.

Philadelphia does much for charity—it has, in fact, done wonders, for when the call for Liberty Bonds came, or the appeal for the Red Cross and the people across the sea, the response only equaled the spirit of our loving people. This appeal is one that is right at our very doors; these children who need this outing are our men and women of tomorrow, who, without our help, must suffer not only physically, but morally as well.

Often there comes into the office a man or woman who tells us: "My first good time, or my first inspiration for good, came when I was sent out to a Country Week when I was a child. It made a man of me." We cannot afford to let our own charities suffer in this time, when our splendid manhood is being called away. Who will fill the places as time goes on?

Our contributions are \$2000 behind those of last year at this time. The work will have a short season unless some of our splendid citizens rally to its aid. It is said that in England more money is being raised for home charities than before this great war began, proving that "charity begins at home" there, and I hope it will here.

May I appeal especially to those who may be enjoying the wonderful luxury of a home in some quiet, shady nook, the bracing air of the mountainside or the magnificence of the great ocean, with its life-giving breezes? Should you leave your delightful surroundings and spend just one day in the city, then, surely, the necessity must appeal. Will you help, and will you help NOW? It is only about five weeks until school opens, and then it will be too late.

MRS. B. F. RICHARDSON, Treasurer Children's Country Week Association, 1223 Arch street, Philadelphia, July 30.

JUSTICE TO THE NEGRO

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir—I wish to thank you for myself and for thousands of others of your colored brethren, the courageous, illuminating and encouraging editorial under the caption of "Status of the Negro" in the issue of Friday, July 27.

If ever a race of people needed assistance and encouragement it is the colored race at this crucial moment of the American nation's life. The ignorant of the race are being made the victims of unscrupulous politicians and grafters. The originally inclined are being protected but encouraged. A quiet investigation of South, Bainbridge, Rodman and Lombard streets between Tenth and Broad streets will convince any searcher for enlightenment of the truth of the above statement. South street, at certain times in the evening and on Saturday nights, is really unsafe for women of any race, and the police assume an attitude of utter indifference.

I have traveled extensively in the South and I find that prohibition is proving a great boon to the colored race. It only needs to be added to the work of the colored people to add the work of the colored people to the work of the colored people.

JOHN J. McDERMOTT, Philadelphia, July 30.

MUSIC FOR COAST DEFENSE

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir—There is an excellent chance for the good people of Philadelphia and vicinity to really aid the boys of the coast defense service. Most, if not all, of these men on ship duty have little means of recreation on board ship. The ships on which they are serving are small and have no room for the entertainments provided on the large ships of the regular service. A large percentage of the original owners of these craft have been kind enough to provide the ships with a phonograph of some kind, mostly of the disc type (in fact, all are of this type), but there is a dearth of records.

A large number of your families have machines and numbers of records which are in good order but which they have grown tired of. My idea is to have a dozen records in carrying cases of, say, two dozen records, which could easily be distributed from ship to ship, much in the manner of a circulating library. Of course, only good, playable records should be collected, as it would not be worth while to send old, worn-out or cracked ones.

If you will take this up I will gladly volunteer to arrange for their cataloging and distribution and will take the matter up with the commandant of the district. I do not want to take up his time with an affair of this nature unless there is a possibility of its being a success, and will await your reply before doing so.

Business houses should also be given the opportunity to contribute records to this service. Special attention should be paid to hand records, gramme and records of the type which is added to the work of the colored people to the work of the colored people.

S. T. WHITNEY, Philadelphia, July 30.

MERELY INCIDENTAL



What Do You Know?

QUIZ

- 1. Give two reasons why representatives are kindly "Deutsch" into "Tedeschi."
2. Are city policemen, as a class, exempt from military service?
3. What are the proper designations of units of infantry, cavalry and artillery?
4. What is the meaning of the French word "comprovenir," but pronounced "comprovenir"?
5. What was the real name of the German Emperor?
6. Who was the English monarch of the "Great Britain" of London?
7. What superstition is there among sailors about a "black cat" on a ship?
8. Correct the following sentence, "He spoke exuberantly on his violinello."
9. What majority will be necessary to amend the Constitution?
10. What Philadelphia playwright dramatized "Tuckermans' 'Vanly Fair'?"

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. The Italians have corrupted the German word "Deutsch" into "Tedeschi."
2. Nicholas Breaker (Adrian the First) was the only English pope.
3. The chief demand of the striking Chicago switchmen was for a "closed shop."
4. It is planned to convert National Guardsmen into regular army units.
5. The war in which horses were used to transport the wounded is commemorated by Germans living in America in the month of July.
6. Nineteenth century—Austria-Hungary, Germany, Turkey, Bulgaria, Serbia, Rumania, Italy, France, Great Britain, Spain, Japan, Italy, France, Rumania, and Spain.
7. The French composer Offenbach wrote on his tombstone "The Tales of Hoffman."
8. The Roman Emperor Nero was said to have hated his mother, so long as they lived in the same house.
9. The stage name of Maude Kulkadoff is "Maude Adams."
10. Belshazzar was prince-regent of Babylon when the "Fables" of the "Fables of the Fables" were written by the Persian, under Cyrus the Great.

WASHINGTON'S INTERVIEW WITH AN EDITOR

THE Farewell Address was first printed in a Philadelphia newspaper—Dunlap Claypoole's Daily Advertiser. Claypoole's account of the manner in which he obtained the manuscript from Washington in 1793:

"I received a message from the President, by his private secretary, signifying his desire to see me. I waited on him at the appointed time, and found him sitting alone in his drawing room. He received me kindly, and after I had paid my respects to him, he desired me to take a seat near him. Then, addressing himself to me, he said that he had for some time past contemplated retiring from public life, and he at length concluded to do so at the end of the then present term; that he had some thoughts and reflections upon the occasion which he deemed proper to communicate to the people of the United States in the form of an address, and which he wished to appear in the Daily Advertiser, of which I was editor.

"He paused, and I took the opportunity of thanking him for having preferred the paper as the channel of his communication with the people—especially as I viewed this selection as indicating his approbation of the principles and manner in which the work was conducted. He silently consented, and in presenting it to him expressed his confidence that the publication could be made. I answered that the time should be made perfectly convenient to himself, and the following Monday was fixed on. He then told me that his secretary would call on me with a copy of the address on the next Friday morning, and I withdrew.

"After the proof-sheet had been compared with the copy and corrected by myself I carried another proof, and then a review, to be examined by the President, who made but a few alterations from the original, except in the punctuation, in which he had added to it him expressed regret at parting with it and how much I should be gratified by being permitted to retain it. Upon which, in an obliging manner, he handed it back to me, saying that if I wished for it, I might keep it; and I then took my leave of him.

"The manuscript copy in (Washington's handwriting) consists of three-and-a-half pages, and is written in a clear, flowing hand, and is a most interesting document.